

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

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PCH-02 SES-02 SAA-01 NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 /099 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:REUNDELAND:LW
APPROVED BY NEA/P:WBHARRIS
PA/PRS - MR. CARTER (INFO)
H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)
SSM - MR. MC ANDREW
NEA/IAI - MR. KORN
NEA/ARN - MR. HOWELL
NEA/EGY - MR. MARTHINSEN
NEA/ARP - MR. TWINAM
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
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AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
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USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
SECDEF WASHDC 0000
JCS WASHDC 0000
CIA WASHDC 0000
USICA WASHDC
NSC WASHDC 0000
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS POUCH

UNCLAS STATE 230325

CINCEUR FOR POLAD, TEL AVIV FOR PAO, DELIVER BY 9 A.M.

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN

SUBJECT: WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING, SEPT 11,

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF
WHITE HOUSE SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR SEPTEMBER 11,
WHICH WAS GIVEN AT THURMONT, MARYLAND.

MR. POWELL: PRESIDENT SADAT AND PRESIDENT CARTER, AS I
THINK YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN NOTIFIED, MET THIS MORNING AT
10:30 AT ASPEN. THAT MEETING CONCLUDED ABOUT 12:30.
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THERE IS A MINISTERIAL-LEVEL MEETING BETWEEN THE EGYPTIAN
AND AMERICAN DELEGATIONS SCHEDULED FOR THIS EVENING. I
DO NOT HAVE AN EXACT TIME FOR YOU. AND FINALLY, THERE
HAVE BEEN AND ARE SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT THE DAY, AND I
HAVEN'T TRIED TO DETERMINE SPECIFIC TIMES FOR THE VARIOUS
DELEGATIONS, INVOLVING ALL THE DELEGATIONS, MEETINGS AMONG
THE MINISTERS AND ADVISERS AND WITH THEIR PRINCIPALS.
THAT IS EACH DELEGATION MEETING WITH ITSELF.

FRANKLY, I THINK THAT IS ABOUT ALL THAT I HAVE.

Q. THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL CONTACT BETWEEN THE AMERI-
CANS AND ISRAELIS, NO FORMAL CONTACT?

MR. POWELL: I DON'T KNOW. I WILL TAKE THAT QUESTION. AS
YOU KNOW, THE AMERICAN AND ISRAELI DELEGATIONS MET INVOL-
VING PRINCIPALS FOR A CONSIDERABLE PERIOD OF TIME, YES.

Q. WHY HAVE THERE BEEN NO FORMAL THREE-WAY MEETINGS
SINCE THURSDAY? DOESN'T THAT SHOW THE CONFERENCE IS
STALEMATED?

MR. POWELL: TO ANSWER THE LAST PART FIRST, NO, I DON'T THINK IT WOULD BE APPROPRIATE TO DRAW THAT CONCLUSION OF STALEMATE. I WILL GIVE YOU ABOUT THE SAME ANSWER THAT I DID EARLIER, THAT IN THE NORMAL COURSE OF THE DISCUSSIONS, THERE ARE PERIODS IN WHICH IT SEEMS TO BE MOST PRODUCTIVE TO ENGAGE IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. THESE PERIODS ARE THEN USUALLY FOLLOWED BY A PERIOD OF TRILATERAL MEETINGS.

THE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS, I THINK IF YOU WILL CONSIDER THEIR VERY NATURE, TAKE MORE TIME INASMUCH AS YOU HAVE ONE PARTY, THE AMERICANS, MEETING WITH BOTH THE ISRAELIS AND EGYPTIANS, AND THAT HAS TO BE CONSECUTIVE. SO YOU WILL HAVE MORE OF THAT THAN TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS.

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TO ADD ONE THING TO THAT THOUGHT, IF YOU WILL REMEMBER, WE BEGAN THIS CYCLE OF BILATERAL AND TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH BILATERAL MEETINGS WHEN WE FIRST CAME HERE. AS I INDICATED TO YOU AT THE END OF THIS PAST WEEK, THE DISCUSSIONS OF THAT WEEK HAVE BROUGHT SOME PROGRESS. BUT AS I ALSO MADE CLEAR, THERE WERE SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCES THAT STILL REMAIN IN IMPORTANT AREAS, AND THAT IT WAS, FRANKLY, TOO EARLY TO MAKE ANY JUDGEMENT ABOUT THE FINAL OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE.

AS I THINK MANY OF YOU HAVE SPECULATED, THE PERIOD OF THE WEEKEND REVIEW--BY, I THINK, ALL DELEGATIONS, CONSISTENT WITH OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES--WAS A RATHER DETAILED ANALYSIS OF WHERE WE STOOD AT THAT POINT. WE HAVE NOW, BEGINNING YESTERDAY, A PERIOD OF RENEWED EFFORT, DISCUSSIONS, IN PERHAPS EVEN MORE INTENSE AND DETAILED FASHION TO SEE IF APPROACHES CAN BE FOUND TO DEAL WITH THOSE IMPORTANT AREAS OF SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCE; AND, OF COURSE, TO REFINE THOSE AREAS IN WHICH APPARENT PROGRESS WAS MADE OVER THE COURSE OF THE LAST WEEK.

Q. WILL YOU KEEP THE SAME ASSESSMENT THEN?

Q. ON THE TIMING, WOULD YOU THINK IT MIGHT TAKE LONGER THAN ORIGINALLY SPECULATED ABOUT? THAT IS, MIGHT WE GO LONGER INTO THIS WEEK WITH THE SUMMIT?

MR. POWELL: I DON'T KNOW WHAT WAS THE ORIGINAL SPECULATION.

Q. THEY WERE SAYING WEDNESDAY WAS A NICE DAY FOR CONCLUSION. DO YOU THINK IT IS GOING TO SLIP NOW?

MR. POWELL: WELL, I DON'T THINK YOU CAN SORT OF SAY, "HOW
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ABOUT WEDNESDAY? IS IT GOING TO SLIP?" I THINK WE HAVE STEADFASTLY REFUSED TO SET ANY ARBITRARY TIME LIMIT ON IT. WE HAVE ALL GUESSED ABOUT IT OURSELVES, AS I AM SURE YOU HAVE. BUT I THINK IT IS ACCURATE TO SAY THAT WE HAVE NO INFORMED BASIS UPON WHICH TO MAKE A JUDGMENT ABOUT THE DATE THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL END ANY MORE THAN YOU DO.

Q. I AM ASKING YOU DIRECTLY IF YOU BELIEVE THE CONFERENCE WILL GO PAST WEDNESDAY.

MR. POWELL: AND I AM SAYING I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T THINK ANYBODY KNOWS. AND I DON'T THINK THERE IS ANY BASIS FOR ANYBODY TO MAKE AN INFORMED JUDGMENT. IF YOU WERE A BETTING MAN AND YOU GOT INTO AN EVEN POOL, I WOULDN'T BET ANY PARTICULAR DAY.

Q. WHY ARE YOU NOW TALKING ABOUT "APPARENT" PROGRESS?

MR. POWELL: I THINK IF YOU GO BACK AND READ THE STATEMENT I MADE AT THE END OF THE WEEK, I USED THAT WORD THEN.

Q. WHEN YOU TALK ABOUT REFINING AREAS OF AGREEMENT, HAVE YOU AT ANY TIME DURING THIS CONFERENCE REACHED A POINT WHERE ISRAELI MINISTERS AND EGYPTIAN MINISTERS ARE SITTING DOWN TOGETHER? BECAUSE THAT SEEMS TO BE THE ONE KIND OF MEETING THAT HASN'T TAKEN PLACE; YET THAT IS THE ONE KIND OF MEETING THAT WOULD PRESUMABLY REFINE AREAS OF AGREEMENT.

MR. POWELL: I BELIEVE THE PHRASE I USED WAS REFINING AREAS OF APPARENT PROGRESS, WHICH WAS A DISTINCTION THAT WAS INTENTIONAL. AND I DON'T THINK WE HAVE, UNLESS IT WAS A SLIP OF THE TONGUE ON MY PART, ANNOUNCED ANY "AGREEMENTS." AND I THINK THAT GOES TO THE HEART OF THE SECOND PART OF YOUR QUESTION. INASMUCH AS WHETHER APPARENT PROGRESS TURNS OUT IN THE END TO BE AN APPARENT AND THEN A REAL AGREEMENT INVOLVES SOME REFINING OF THE MATTER.

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Q. THERE HAS NOT BEEN THAT KIND OF MEETING THEN, IS THAT CORRECT, BETWEEN THESE PARTIES?

MR. POWELL: I AM NOT AWARE OF SUCH A MEETING ON A FORMAL BASIS IN TERMS OF A WHOLE DELEGATION. AS YOU KNOW, THERE HAVE BEEN MEETINGS BETWEEN, I THINK--PRESIDENT SADAT MET WITH MINISTER WEIZMAN, AND THERE MAY HAVE BEEN OTHER MEETINGS OF THAT TYPE, INFORMAL MEETINGS. IN FACT, THERE HAVE BEEN, BUT I DON'T WANT TO MISLEAD YOU. I DO NOT KNOW TO WHAT EXTENT THOSE SORTS OF MEETINGS GO TO THE POINT OF

YOUR QUESTION. I AM NOT REALLY SURE THAT THEY DO.

Q. THE SATURDAY TRANSCRIPT DOES NOT SHOW THE WORD "APPARENT" BEING CONSISTENTLY STUCK IN. IN FACT, I CAN'T FIND IT STUCK IN AT ALL TO MODIFY "PROGRESS." THE ORIGINAL STATEMENT WAS "PROGRESS DOES SEEM TO HAVE BEEN MADE IN SOME AREAS," AND LATER TALKING ABOUT "BOTH THE AREAS OF PROGRESS" AND THE OTHER AREAS. RALPH HAS GOT A POINT. WHY ARE YOU CONSISTENTLY STICKING IN THE WORD "APPARENT" NOW TO MODIFY "PROGRESS"?

MR. POWELL: I THINK YOU ARE PROBABLY RIGHT, AND I CHANGED "APPARENT" TO "SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MADE," WHICH I THINK IS ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT. IN OTHER WORDS, THERE WAS AN ATTEMPT TO PUT A MODIFIER IN.

IN ANY CASE, LET ME SAY THE USE OF THE WORD "APPARENT" WAS NOT INTENDED TO CHANGE THE NATURE OF WHAT I SAID, AND I WOULD BE WILLING TO RETRACT AND GO BACK AND USE THE WORDS "THE PROGRESS THAT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN MADE." I THINK IN THE DRAFT STATEMENT WE USED "APPARENT" ALL THE UNCLASSIFIED UNCLASSIFIED

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WAY THROUGH AND THEN STUCK IT IN THE END. IT MAKES IT LONGER AND--

Q. YOU SPOKE AT THE BEGINNING OF A PERIOD OF RENEWED EFFORT AND EVEN MORE INTENSE AND DETAILED EFFORTS. YET THERE IS NO THREE-WAY MEETING. WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXPAND THAT AND SAY A MORE INTENSE EFFORT BY THE PRESIDENT? BECAUSE IF SADAT AND BEGIN AREN'T TOGETHER, I CAN'T SEE HOW THEY ARE MAKING A MORE INTENSE EFFORT.

MR. POWELL: IT IS CERTAINLY A MORE INTENSE EFFORT BY THE PRESIDENT, BUT IT IS MY IMPRESSION IT IS A MORE INTENSE EFFORT WHICH IS SHARED BY THE OTHER DELEGATIONS ALSO, AND IT IS CERTAINLY POSSIBLE FOR MORE INTENSE EFFORT TO TAKE PLACE IN BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. AS I REMINDED YOU A FEW MOMENTS AGO, THIS CYCLE BEGAN WITH BILATERAL AND THEN

TRILATERAL. AND AFTER A PAUSE OF ASSESSMENT AND SEARCHING FOR POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES AND APPROACHES THIS WEEKEND, WE HAVE BEGUN WITH BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS.

Q. JODY, THE DISCUSSION THIS MORNING AND THIS AFTERNOON CENTERS ON "APPARENT," "SEEMS." ET CETERA. THERE IS A FEELING OF PESSIMISM THAT THE CONFERENCE WILL END IN FAILURE. AS A MATTER OF FACT, SENATOR JACKSON SAID THINGS ARE GOING VERY SLOWLY YESTERDAY.

MY POINT IS, IS THERE ANY EXPRESSION OF OPTIMISM

THAT YOU CAN GIVE REGARDING THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE
MEETING?

MR. POWELL: I BASICALLY ATTEMPTED, ALTHOUGH HENRY
POINTED OUT I DIDN'T QUITE SUCCEED, TO REPEAT THE FEW
SENTENCES I GAVE YOU AT THE END OF LAST WEEK AT A TIME
WHEN I THINK PERHAPS THERE MAY HAVE BEEN AN EXCESSIVE AIR
OF OPTIMISM PERVADING AT LEAST THE PRESS ROOM. AND I
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CERTAINLY SYMPATHIZE WITH YOU IN YOUR TRYING TO HAVE AN
AIR OF ANYTHING UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.

Q. IS JACKSON RIGHT OR ISN'T HE?

MR. POWELL: LET ME FINISH, PLEASE.

ALL I CAN TELL YOU IS, TO REPEAT THAT FINAL SENTENCE
OF WHAT I SAID, THAT THERE SIMPLY IS NO BASIS AT THIS
POINT FOR INFORMED SPECULATION ABOUT THE ULTIMATE OUTCOME
OF THE SUMMIT. I THINK NEITHER OPTIMISM NOR PESSIMISM IS
PARTICULARLY JUSTIFIED AT THIS TIME. WE WILL JUST HAVE TO
WAIT AND SEE.

Q. JODY, BEFORE THEY STARTED THIS CONFERENCE, ISRAEL AND
EGYPT HAD THEIR OWN PLANS. MY QUESTION IS THIS: HAVE
THEY SHELVED THESE PLANS, ARE THEY DISCUSSING SOMETHING
ELSE OR IS THE CONFERENCE BEING BASED ON THESE TWO PLANS?
AND IS THERE SOME PROGRESS MADE? IS THAT THE PROCEDURAL
PROGRESS, TO SHELVE THESE PLANS AND START THE WHOLE THING
FROM ZERO AND GET THE THING GOING?

MR. POWELL: I FRANKLY DON'T KNOW HOW TO ANSWER THAT. THE
PROGRESS, APPARENT PROGRESS, OR PROGRESS THAT SEEMS TO BE
MADE, DOES RELATE TO, AS I INDICATED YESTERDAY OR THE
DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY, AS DOES THE STATEMENT ABOUT SUB-
STANTIAL DIFFERENCES IN THE IMPORTANT AREAS TO WHAT I WOULD
ROUGHLY DEFINE AS SUBSTANCE RATHER THAN PROCEDURE. BUT I
AM NOT SURE OF ANY WAY I CAN DEAL WITH THE QUESTION OF

PLANS AND SO FORTH, PARTICULARLY WITHOUT KNOWING WHICH PLAN
YOU REFER TO.

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Q. IF THE SUMMIT CONTINUES THROUGH THE WEEKEND, WILL THE
PRESIDENT REMAIN HERE WITH THEM OR TAKE PART IN THE TRAVEL
THAT HE HAS PLANNED FOR THIS WEEKEND?

MR. POWELL: FRA WE WILL HAVE TO MAKE THAT DECISION
IF THE CONFERENCE GOES INTO THE WEEKEND.

Q. WHAT TRAVEL IS SCHEDULED?

MR. POWELL: I BELIEVE THERE IS A TRIP TO PENNSYLVANIA
AND PERHAPS SOMEWHERE ELSE.

Q. IS THERE A THREE-WAY MEETING ON THIS AFTERNOON OR
THIS EVENING?

MR. POWELL: THE ANSWER IS NO AND I WON'T REPEAT ALL THE
OTHER THINGS I HAVE SAID ABOUT THAT.

Q. LET ME ASK A SECOND QUESTION. AS THE SPOKESMAN FOR
EVERYBODY, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU A QUESTION WHICH PER-
TAINS SOMEWHAT TO THE EGYPTIANS. IS THERE ANY INDICATION
THAT THE EGYPTIANS ARE GETTING IMPATIENT WITH THE RATE OF
PROGRESS OR LACK THEREOF, WHATEVER IT MAY BE, AT THIS
SUMMIT CONFERENCE, ANY INDICATIONS OF IMPATIENCE ON THE
PART OF THE EGYPTIANS, OR FOR THAT MATTER, ANYONE ELSE?

MR. POWELL: NOT SO FAR AS I KNOW. I SUPPOSE ANY OF THE
DELEGATIONS OR PRINCIPALS COULD HAVE EXPRESSED THE HOPE
THAT THEY WISHED THINGS WERE MOVING FASTER AND I SUSPECT
THAT IF EVERYONE, INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT--WHENEVER ONE
ARRIVED HERE--IF THE PRESIDENT, AS HE WAS WALKING WITH
MR. BEGIN TO HIS CABIN SUGGESTED THAT IF WE COULD WRAP IT
UP AND SIGN AGREEMENTS BY NOON THE FOLLOWING DAY, WE COULD
TAKE A WEEK'S VACATION AND NO ONE WOULD EVER BE THE
WISER. UNFORTUNATELY, THAT HAS NOT DEVELOPED.

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Q. JODAY, AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS CONFERENCE, DOES THE
PRESIDENT INTEND TO DISCLOSE TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ANY
COMMITMENTS OR PROMISES THAT HE MAY HAVE MADE TO ANY OF
THE PARTICIPANTS IN THIS CONFERENCE? ANY AT ALL?

MR. POWELL: YOU MEAN COVENANTS SECRETLY ARRIVED AT?

Q. NO. I MEAN SECRETLY NOW THAT YOU HAVE EXPLAINED FROM
ONE RATIONALE. I AM ASKING WHEN THE CONFERENCE IS OVER,
IF THE PRESIDENT HAS IN ANY COMMITTED HIS GOVERNMENT, HIS
ADMINISTRATION, TO SOME COURSE OF ACTION, WILL HE DISCLOSE
IT TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC?

MR. POWELL: FRANKLY, WE HAVE NOT BEEN IND IN
DETAILED PLANNING FOR EXACTLY WHAT STATEMENTS ARE MADE AT

THE END OF THE CONFERENCE AT THIS POINT. BUT I THINK I CAN ASSURE YOU IN GENERAL TERMS THAT THE PRESIDENT IS MOST LIKELY TO REPORT IN SOME FASHION TO THE PUBLIC AND TO THE CONGRESS ABOUT THE CONFERENCE, AND BEYOND THAT, I THINK IT IS VERY SAFE TO ASSUME THAT WITHIN A REASONABLY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME AFTER THE CONFERENCE HAS BEEN CONCLUDED, THAT VIRTUALLY EVERYTHING THAT HAS GONE ON OVER THE PAST WEEK OR SO AND A NUMBER OF THINGS THAT DID NOT GO ON WILL BE REPORTED AT GREAT LENGTH.

Q. WILL YOU ASSUME THERE WILL BE A JOINT COMMUNIQUE?

MR. POWELL: I DON'T MAKE ANY ASSUMPTIONS. WE REALLY HAVE NOT GONE INTO EXACTLY WHAT SORT OF STATEMENT OR HOW IT IS DONE AT THE END OF THE CONFERENCE. I WOULD THINK THAT THAT DECISION WOULD RELATE SOME WAY TO EXACTLY HOW THE CONFERENCE ENDS.

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Q. DO YOU FIND DIFFICULTIES WHICH PREVENT THE THREE PRINCIPALS TO SIT TOGETHER NOW AND BILATERALLY IS IT GOING TO HELP THE THREE?

MR. POWELL: THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM IF I SUPPOSE ANY OF THE THREE WISHED TO DO IT, HAVING ALL THREE SIT DOWN TOGETHER NOW, BUT I WILL SIMPLY REAFFIRM WHAT I SAID EARLIER, THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NORMAL--I REALLY THOUGHT A FAIRLY WELL-ESTABLISHED PATTERN TO THESE THINGS AND OF BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS FOLLOWED BY TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AND SO FORTH. IN THAT SENSE, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY THAT THE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS DO IN SOME SENSE, AT LEAST THEY HAVE GENERALLY BEEN SOMEWHAT PREPARATORY TO THE TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS.

OF COURSE, THESE ALSO INVOLVE--IN SOME SENSE, FOLLOW UP ON--THE TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS, TOO. BUT THAT IS ABOUT THE BEST ANSWER I CAN GIVE YOU.

Q. JODY, THIS PATTERN YOU SUGGEST, WOULD SUGGEST THAT SOMETHING HAS BEEN FORMED, A PATTERN. HOW MANY DAYS WILL IT TAKE IN THIS WELL-KNOWN PATTERN FOR THESE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS TO PRODUCE OTHER TRILATERAL MEETING?

MR. POWELL: I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU READ THE PATTERN. BUT IT IS MY THOUGHT THAT THE PATTERN IS NOT QUITE THAT PRECISE.

Q. JODY, THE PATTERN IS THAT THE FIRST TWO REAL DAYS OF THE CONFERENCE, THERE WERE TRILATERAL MEETINGS. WHAT KIND OF PATTERN IS THAT? IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE AN OFF-

AND-ON THING. IT SEEMS TO BE ON-OFF.

MR. POWELL: I WILL SIMPLY TELL YOU--YOU MAY DO AS YOU
WISH. I WILL TELL YOU THAT YOU ARE BARKING UP THE WRONG
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TREE AT THIS POINT AND I CAN'T KEEP YOU FROM DOING THAT.

Q. YES, YOU CAN. TELL US WHAT IS GOING ON. (LAUGHTER)

MR. POWELL: AS I SAID, I CAN'T. YES, I WOULD EXPECT
THAT THERE WOULD BE TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. THAT JUST
AIN'T THE KEY TO IT, FOLKS. I PROMISE YOU.

Q. JODY, DO YOU REALLY WANT TO LEAVE THE IMPRESSION--
I THINK THIS IS THE ANSWER TO SAM DONALDSON'S QUESTION--
THAT THE PRESIDENT COULD BE INVOLVED IN AGREEMENTS THAT HE
WOULD NOT MAKE FULLY PUBLIC TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WHEN
THIS IS OVER?

MR. POWELL: I DON'T THINK I LEFT THAT IMPRESSION AT ALL.

Q. YOU SAID YOU WOULD REPORT TO THE PUBLIC AND TO THE
CONGRESS ON ALL AGREEMENTS WHICH HE ENGAGED IN?

MR. POWELL: LOOK, I SUPPOSE YOU COULD HAVE A SITUATION IN
WHICH THERE WAS AN AGREEMENT, IN WHICH THAT WAS TENTATIVE
IN NATURE THAT SOMEONE WANTED TO GO BACK AND DISCUSS IN
THEIR OWN COUNTRY, OR WHATEVER, AND WHICH YOU WOULD NOT
ANNOUNCE PUBLICLY UNTIL THOSE THINGS HAD TAKEN PLACE.
BUT OBVIOUSLY MY CONCERN IS WHETHER THE PRESIDENT WILL HAVE
A CHANCE TO MAKE A REPORT BEFORE IT IS ALL LEAKED OUT
ANYWAY.

I DON'T THINK THERE IS ANY CHANCE AT ALL THAT THERE
WOULD BE ANY AGREEMENTS REACHED HERE THAT WILL NOT BE
FULLY DISCLOSED AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME, AND I MEAN THAT
JUST WITH REGARD TO SOME MATTER OF THE COURTESIES AMONGST

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PAGE 13 STATE 230325HE PRINCIPALS, ASSUMING THERE ARE AGREEMENTS.

Q. JODY, YOU HAVE SAID THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE
READY TO PRESENT HIS CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSALS WHEN THE TWO
PARTIES ARE SO FAR APART, TO BRIDGE THE GAP. DO YOU
THINK WE HAVE REACHED THIS MOMENT?

MR. POWELL: I AM NOT SURE I EVER FORMULATED IT EXACTLY
THAT WAY. I THOUGHT WHAT WE SAID WAS WE EXPECTED THE

PRESIDENT TO BE FULLY INVOLVED. AND I SAID ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THAT HE WAS FULLY INVOLVED IN THE CONVERSATIONS, AND THAT AS THE PERIOD OR AS SITUATIONS AROSE IN WHICH HE THOUGHT HIS SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS MIGHT BE CONSTRUCTIVE, HE WOULD MAKE THEM.

I AM NOT GOING TO TRY TO GET INTO THE PROCESS OF SAYING, OKAY, AS OF 1600 HOURS ON SUCH AND SUCH A DAY, SUCH AND SUCH PROPOSALS BEGAN TO BE PRESENTED.

HE HAS BEEN AN ACTIVE PARTICIPANT IN THE DISCUSSIONS SINCE, I THINK, VIRTUALLY THE VERY BEGINNING AND AS I THINK I HAVE ALREADY INDICATED, AND AS WE INDICATED COMING HERE, HE HAS FELT FREE TO OFFER SUGGESTIONS AS THEY SEEM TO BE APPROPRIATE.

Q. DO THE SUGGESTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT CONSTITUTE AN AMERICAN FORMULATION OF PROPOSALS, ALL OF THEM TOGETHER?

MR. POWELL: I FRANKLY DON'T WANT TO GET INTO THE PROCESS OF QUIBBLING ABOUT WHAT IS A PROPOSAL AND WHAT IS NOT. I THINK I WILL HAVE TO REFER YOU TO THE LANGUAGE WE USED COMING IN ABOUT HOW WE SAW THE CONFERENCE AND HOW WE WOULD GO ABOUT PRESENTING IDEAS, AND SO FORTH, WITH CONSULTATION WITH BOTH SIDES AND SO FORTH. THAT IS THE BEST I COULD DO FOR YOU RIGHT NOW.

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NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED ALGIERS.

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